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12. The Abbot,
13. The Pirate,
14. Fortunes of Nigel,
15. Peveril of the Peak,
16. Quentin Durward,
17. St. Ronan's Well,
18. Red Gauntlet,
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CONFERENCE HOLDS TO MARCH

As the Time of Holding its Annual Session.

But the Time Changed to the Fourth Wednesday—Dr. Hyde's Resolution Defeated by a Close Vote After a Lively Discussion—Treasurer Shipley of the Board of Missions Resigns—Ap- pointments and Adjournment To-day.

The conference gave the visitors a sample of filibustering yesterday, with a lawyer in the lead, defeating Dr. Hyde's resolution proposing to change the time of holding the conference to the fall of the year.

A few minutes after 11 o'clock Dr. Hyde called up his resolution. The interest was immediately on tiptoe among the large number of visitors that crowded the conference room, as well as the members of the conference.

At the adjournment Saturday in the middle of this discussion it was evident that there was very strong opposition to the change, and equally evident that a majority of the conference favored the change. A lively discussion was looked for, and it came.

The first effort of the opposition was to choke off the matter entirely, but the motion to table the resolution was promptly voted down by a vote of 86 to 61. Then Dr. Bond withdrew his amendment making the fourth Wednesday in March the time, and Dr. Ferguson offered an amendment to make it the fourth Wednesday in October. This was accepted by Dr. Hyde and made a part of the original resolution.

Dr. Rogers took the floor. "We are here in a conference," said he, "and every brother desires the best time. There is a difference of opinion only as to which is the best. I think we should remain as we are. We have more leisure in the month of March than any other time of the year and can leave our work at that time with less embarrassment than at any other time. As the winter approaches is not a suitable time for us to go to our appointments. The Holston and Virginia Conferences have been agitating a change to March, and I trust that the conference will not take this step, but let the time remain unchanged."

Dr. Gardner was in favor of the change not so much for personal consideration as for the good of the Church and the comfort and convenience of the preachers. The change would be to the advantage of the people who entertain the conference. There was no ground for the objection that the preachers could not supply themselves for the winter. The fall is a season of abundance and there would be no trouble in this respect. The weather would be better for going to conference and moving and the financial interests of the church would be moved.

The conference seemed to be in the right humor at this time to pass the resolution and Rev. Thomas E. Carson called for the previous question.

Mr. E. B. Prettyman raised the point of order that there was no regulation for the government of the conference providing for the previous question. The bishop sustained the point as well taken.

Rev. J. W. Duffey thought that the matter had been sufficiently discussed, and while he had always been in favor of March he was willing to change the time if the majority desired a change.

Mr. Prettyman took the floor, and was several times interrupted during his speech of forty minutes' length. The present time was a usage of a century, which should not be lightly thrown aside. He discussed the different arguments that had been presented, both for and against, and while speaking of something in connection with the financial phase of the matter, Dr. Hyde raised the point of order that the gentleman was not speaking to the subject, but the chair did not consider the point well taken.

The financial matters of the church, said Mr. Prettyman, should not be regulated by the time of the year in which the conference is held. The arguments in favor of the change on the ground that the collections and salaries would be paid nearer in full does not effect the question under consideration if the members of the church look upon the financial support of the church as a duty instead of a matter of convenience. If they want to pay and will pay, they will pay without regard to the time at which the conference is held.

When the speaker had held the floor for twenty-five minutes many of those in favor of the change began to think that his plan was to speak the time of the session out and defeat the resolution by preventing a vote.

About this time Mr. George H. Zimmerman occasioned a roar of laughter throughout the house by interrupting the speaker and asking him which side of the question he was speaking on. Mr. Prettyman finally finished his speech at a quarter of 12, and the time of taking the vote was fixed at 12:25.

Mr. M. L. Walton took the floor in favor of the resolutions and held until the time arrived for taking the vote, making a strong speech.

The vote was then taken and the resolution defeated by a vote of 71 to 84.

Dr. Bond offered a resolution asking the bishops to appoint the fourth Wednesday in March as the time for holding the conference.

A SERVICE OF TWENTY-THREE YEARS

Treasurer Charles Shipley Reads His Last Report to the Conference.

After Mr. Charles Shipley, of Baltimore, treasurer of the board of missions, read his report to the conference, he took up a separate sheet of paper and said: For twenty-three years I have served this conference in this capacity, and this is the last report I shall ever make. I have not previous to this

made known my intentions to the board. Mr. Shipley then read a statement of the amounts that had been raised each year for the board, which showed that since 1868 the amount has increased from \$4,000 to \$16,000, and the total amount he has handled to be \$235,166.89. During this twenty-three years of service Mr. Shipley has never made an error and has furnished all the stationery used during his entire service.

Dr. Rogers moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Shipley and that he be requested to consider his determination to resign. The motion was unanimously adopted and Mr. Shipley stated that he could not longer continue to do the work on account of his declining years.

The report submitted by Mr. Shipley for the year just closing shows the following collections by districts:

FOREIGN MISSIONS.		
District.	Assessed.	Paid.
Baltimore.....	\$2,305	1,973
East Baltimore.....	1,845	975
Washington.....	2,309	2,073
Winchester.....	1,829	1,340
Rockingham.....	1,418	1,098
Roanoke.....	1,487	1,401
Lewisburg.....	1,186	780
Moorefield.....	1,231	842
	\$15,310	\$11,461

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.		
District.	Assessed.	Paid.
Baltimore.....	\$13,14	1,024
East Baltimore.....	1,051	522
Washington.....	1,316	1,033
Winchester.....	1,042	724
Roanoke.....	847	575
Lewisburg.....	781	371
Moorefield.....	703	401
	\$7,054	\$5,231.86

The following table is a comparative statement with the previous year.

	1890.	1891.
Baltimore.....	2,804	2,997
East Baltimore.....	1,948	1,909
Washington.....	3,393	3,966
Winchester.....	1,819	2,064
Rockingham.....	1,493	1,647
Roanoke.....	1,549	1,996
Lewisburg.....	1,043	1,157
Moorefield.....	1,034	1,243
	14,983	15,607

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

After devotional services, conducted by Rev. David Bush, the committee on district conference records reported that the records of all the district conferences were in good order except that of East Baltimore district, and recommended that the district conference get a new book and keep its records in better condition.

Question 20, "Are all the preachers blameless in life and official administration?" was taken up and the pastors of Baltimore, East Baltimore and Washington districts were passed. Rev. John Miller, of the Baltimore district, was referred to the committee on conference relations with recommendation that he be located. Rev. W. A. Wade and J. J. Eagle were referred to the same committee for a supernumerary relation and F. A. Mercer for a supernumerary relation.

A letter was read from Rev. B. W. Waters, a missionary to Japan, in which progress in the work of the church was reported. On his work a new church is soon to be completed and five new appointments have been added since November. He called attention to the need of more missionaries and stated statistics show a smaller net increase in the membership of the church in Japan for 1890 than for 1887. The political problems were engrossing the attention of the people and there was strong opposition to the spreading of Christianity.

A letter was read from Rev. J. C. Newton in which Mr. Newton stated that he has been engaged principally in teaching, preparing the natives for the ministry, and at the last conference was appointed to evangelistic work. His wife is conducting two small Sunday-schools.

On this work there has been recently established a well equipped school for girls, and the attendance is increasing.

On motion of Rev. G. T. Tyler the secretary was instructed to convey to these missionaries the greetings of the conference and its approbation of their work.

The transfer of Rev. Morris Evans from the Kentucky Conference was announced. A resolution was adopted amending the constitution of the board of missions, so that the board shall consist of one lay and one clerical member for each district, all vacancies to be filled by the board. A resolution was passed, providing that no member, as far as is practical, shall belong to more than one committee or board.

A resolution was offered by Rev. V. W. Wheeler and adopted, extending the sympathies of the conference to Rev. Dr. W. K. Boyle in his affliction. The committee on conference relations recommended the following for supernumerary relations:

F. M. Mills, George Stevenson, Nelson Head, David Thomas, Henry Hoffman, John W. Tongue, J. M. Grandin, Robert Smith, John Landstreet, P. B. Smith, M. G. Balthis, Wesley Hammond, R. Ross and H. W. Kinzer.

The following were recommended for supernumerary relations: J. N. Houck, J. W. Boteler, E. L. Kregels, A. B. Boude, A. R. Martin, Edward F. Hietrick, L. H. Crenshaw and A. R. Martin. The report was adopted.

The characters of the following of the class of the first year were examined and passed, and having passed an approved examination before the committee, were advanced to the class of the second year: John Wesley Beall, William Thornton Gover, William H. H. Joyce, Harry Coe Febray, John S. Engle, John L. Grant, Isaac G. Michael, John Henry Wilhite, Charles Addison Scamland.

William H. March, not having appeared before the committee was continued in the class of the first year.

Business will be pushed as fast as possible to-day and will probably be completed and the appointments read to-night.

THE TIMES desires special correspondents in every town in Southwest Virginia and the Shenandoah Valley.

SHOCKING DEATH ON THE RAIL.

Two Girls Killed by a Passenger Train.

Near Coyner's—Lella Copperidge Meets Instant Death and Her Sister Lulu Fatally Injured—Caught on the Trestle Near a Sharp Curve—The Dead Body and Injured Girl Brought to Vinton Where the Second Death Ensued.

One of the most shocking accidents that has occurred in the vicinity of Roanoke since the great Thaxton wreck was the mangling of the bodies of Lulu and Lella Copperidge yesterday morning by the Norfolk and Western west-bound train near Coyner's Springs.

As the train dashed around the curve, a few hundred yards below the station, just before reaching the bridge, at full speed, Engineer John L. Akers was horrified to behold two girls, one grown and the other about 12 years of age, on the railroad bridge a few yards in front of his flying locomotive. He blew the whistle and reversed his engine. The girls looked around. The elder instantly seized her sister and attempted to jump from the bridge to the ground, a distance of fifteen feet. The foot of the brave girl slipped between the ties, and as the two came near falling on the bridge the engine struck them. The bodies of both were knocked across the track a distance of several feet, falling to one side of the track. As soon as the train could be stopped a crowd of passengers went back to the scene and beheld the awful work of the iron monster.

The girls proved to be Lella C., aged 19, and Lella M. Copperidge, aged 12, daughters of Joel Copperidge, a carpenter, formerly of this city. The youngest was picked up dead, her head and shoulders having been crushed in a frightful manner. Lulu, the eldest, was still living, but had received a fearful blow on the head. Blood was oozing from her eyes, nose and mouth.

The family were moving from about a mile below Coyner's Springs to Vinton. A wagon driven by Tom Smith, a white boy, was loaded with furniture belonging to the family and was in the turn-pike a few yards from the scene. The mother of the girls was in the wagon. The father was driving a cow just behind. They both saw the frightful accident and were soon on the scene wringing their hands in despair.

The father was excited beyond control, and it was with much effort of the bystanders that he was controlled. He was enraged at the engineer, and threatened to do him bodily harm, so crazed was he from the effects of the terrible shock. He was finally calmed, and gave way again to the most heart-rending grief.

The body of Lella and the wounded girl were placed on the train and brought to Vinton.

Drs. Garthright and Eubank were immediately summoned and examined the wounded girl. She was removed to the house intended to be occupied by the family, next to Smith's store.

Drs. Kolner, Simmons and Lunny, of Roanoke, were summoned by telephone, and were soon on hand. Everything possible was done by the neighbors to relieve the distressed family.

G. W. Caldwell, who lives at Blue Ridge Springs, was driving a wagon load of lumber near the scene at the time and witnessed the accident. He says the elder girl made a frantic effort to save her sister, but failed because she slipped between the ties. Both were lifted bodily from the track and hurled clear across the bridge. He never saw an engine coming at such speed stopped so suddenly.

The physicians were with the wounded girl until nearly 6 o'clock yesterday evening, when she died. She had received a fracture of the frontal bone of the head about two and a half inches long. It was decided not to perform an operation, as the effects would surely have been fatal.

Thus the brave girl, who made such a heroic effort to save her little sister, lingered for more than seven hours in intense agony.

Mr. Copperidge was a most excellent man, and was beloved by all who knew him. So was his family. Four children remain to lament the terrible calamity which fell so suddenly upon the once happy household.

2,250,000 TONS OF COAL.

President McQuail Makes an Estimate on the Flat Top Output for 1891.

President W. H. McQuail, of the Turkey Gap and McQuail and Coke Companies, is at Hotel Roanoke. He is one of the leading operators of the Flat Top region and moves between Elkhorn and Bluefield a good part of the time.

"March," said he, "is going to be one of the best months we have ever had. The road is furnishing us plenty of cars and coal and coke is moving out freely. You may safely say that this year 2,250,000 tons of coal will be moved out of the Flat Top region and the Clinch Valley Extension over the Norfolk and Western. And we have hardly begun to develop it."

Mr. McQuail pointed to the gas jet in the hotel lobby, which were burning with an unaccommodated brilliancy. "We are giving the Roanoke Gas and Coke Company," he said, "some of our best coal now and it seems to be making a superior quality of gas, as you can see."

The Real Estate Exchange held its weekly meeting last night. Many letters were read concerning the location of industries and the secretary was instructed to answer the business of importance was transacted.

Mr. Ludwig outlined a scheme whereby a building association might be formed to erect a building for the men who are to come to establish a glass plant. The plan will be announced at this plan.

TRUCK FARMING.

One Hundred Million Dollars Invested in This Productive Industry.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—[Special]—The census office to-day made public a bulletin on truck farming, which for the first time in the history of the country has been made the subject of census investigation. The statistics are compiled from returns which have been received up to January 1, 1891. Upward of one hundred million of dollars are invested in this industry, the products reaching the value of \$76,507,155 on farms after paying freights and commissions, and are realized upon 534,440 acres of land. There are employed in this industry 216,765 men, 9,254 women and 14,874 children, aided by 73,866 horses and mules and \$3,971,206 worth of implements.

The Norfolk district, embracing 43,375 acres, shipped products valued at \$7,692,559; the South Atlantic district, 111,741 acres, products, \$13,183,514; Mississippi Valley, 36,180 acres, products, \$4,979,780. Nearly 75 per cent. of the truck produced in the United States comes from the belt of country along the Atlantic Coast, lying east of a line drawn from Augusta, Me., to Macon, Ga.; from Southern Georgia, Alabama and Florida; along the north and south lines of railroad in the Mississippi Valley; from the Gulf to Chicago, St. Louis and Kansas City and from the celery districts of Michigan and Ohio. More or less of the truck, however, is produced in all the States.

The following table shows the total acreage in the leading vegetables grown upon truck farms: Asparagus, 37,079; beans, 12,607; cabbage, 77,094; kale, 2,962; spinach, 20,193; Irish potatoes, 28,046; beets, 2,430; celery, 15,331; cucumbers, 4,721; watermelons, 114,381; other melons, 28,477; peas, 56,162; sweet potatoes, 28,621; tomatoes, 28,802; miscellaneous vegetables, 82,601.

The Taulbee Murder Trial.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—[Special]—The case of Charles E. Kincaid, the newspaper correspondent, charged with the murder of ex-Congressman Taulbee, of Kentucky, was called in the criminal court of the District of Columbia this morning. The defendant and his counsel were present, and an application for a postponement was made. This was objected to by the prosecution, which insisted upon an affidavit being made by the defence that it had been unable to secure necessary witnesses. The affidavits of the defence were placed on file. It is possible that a postponement for a few days will be granted.

A Big Shipping Deal.

TACOMA, Wash., March 16.—[Special]—The Northern Pacific is negotiating with the owners of the ships Abyssinia, Parthia and Batavia for the past three years, under charter to the Canadian Pacific railroad in the China trade, for the purpose of placing them on the run between Tacoma and the Orient. Either the Canadian Pacific railroad will pay a big bonus to keep these ships out of the trade or will else find that the freight taken by them will be a serious pull-back to the profits of the Canadian Pacific.

A Plumbers' Lockout.

ST. PAUL, Minn., March 16.—[Special]—Journeymen plumbers of St. Paul, 1,250 in number, were locked out this morning by the master plumbers. This action is in retaliation for the boycott begun by the journeymen on the boss plumbers who employed a cornice maker to do plumbing. The employers are determined to break up the local journeymen's union.

Michigan Miners Strike.

MARQUETTE, Mich., March 16.—[Special]—Miners employed in the east range mines at Negaunee struck this morning on account of the backwardness of their pay. Six hundred men went out. The sheriff has sworn in an extra force to protect the property of the companies. Men are in an ugly humor and trouble is feared.

A Reduction in Puddling Wages.

READING, Pa., March 16.—[Special]—A reduction in the wages of puddlers of the Glasgow Iron Company at Pottstown from \$3.75 to \$3.50 commencing to-day, has been accepted, and the men continued work. Potts Brothers Iron Company's puddlers at the same place, also accepted a similar reduction, commencing to-day. The two firms employ over four hundred hands.

Deaf-Mute Killed by Train.

BOSTON, March 16.—[Special]—Train No. 2 on the S. A. & C. railroad struck an old deaf man to-day near the city by the name of Laws, and killed him instantly. The engineer sounded his whistle many times, but the old man remained on the track. His remains were taken to State City.

The Bridge Pier.

CARROLL, Md., March 16.—[Special]—While a tow boat Joseph Williams, the largest on the river, was towing fifty boats loaded with 900,000 bushels of coal toward a pier of the Illinois Central bridge, at this place, sinking three boats carrying \$15,000 worth of coal.

A Big Crevasse.

NEW ORLEANS, March 16.—[Special]—A crevasse occurred at 4 o'clock this morning in Bayou Lafourche levee at Senator E. D. White's Broussard plantation. The break is sixty feet wide and three feet deep. The rainy weather continues.

A Private Bank Closes.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., March 16.—[Special]—The private bank of F. R. Weed & Co., of this city, closed its doors to-day. No statement has yet been given out.

The Weather.

Forecast for Va. fair, cooler, northwesterly wind.

NEW ORLEANS QUIETING DOWN.

No Present Signs of Further Dangerous Disturbances.

The Italian Ministry Questioned About the Affair—Sentiment of the Press—English Newspapers Show a Surprising Degree of Support for the New Orleans Lysanders—Moreton Frewen's Letter.

NEW ORLEANS, March 16.—[Special]—The district attorney has entered a nolle prosequere as to all indictments pending in section B of the criminal district court against the Italians implicated in the Hennessey assassination. This releases Charles Matranga, Incardona, the Marchesi boy.